

under Ministry's scheme of 'Assistance for Large Revenue Generating Projects'.

**Development of eco-tourism in Rajasthan**

701. DR. NARAYAN SINGH MANAKLAO: Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that eco-tourism is being promoted on priority;
- (b) if so, the details of the sites selected, especially in the State of Rajasthan;
- (c) the criteria for selection of eco-tourism sites and the agencies involved in the selection process;
- (d) the partnership between Centre and States in developing eco-tourism sites including providing the financial, technical and other support to the States; and
- (e) the expected increase in tourism inflow, domestic tourists and foreign tourists?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM (SHRIMATI AMBIKA SONI): (a) to (d) Ministry of Tourism promotes eco-tourism on priority. Development of tourism including eco-tourism is primarily the responsibility of the State/UT Governments. Ministry of Tourism extends Central Financial Assistance to the States/UT Governments for the project proposals, including eco-tourism projects, prioritized in consultation with them. Such prioritized projects, including the eco-tourism projects for the States/UTs, including Rajasthan for Central financial assistance during the current financial year are given in the Statement. [Refer to the Statement-I appended to Unstarred Question 697(C) and (d)J.

(e) In view of the present buoyancy in travel and tourism, the international and domestic tourism is expected to grow at an average rate of 13-15% per annum.

**Inter-linking of river and flood water**

702. DR. E.M. SUDARSANA NATCHIAPPAN: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government have prepared a Master Plan for inter-linking of rivers and flood water within ten years as directed by the Supreme Court by its order dated the 31st October, 2002; and